

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 00092 241248Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 L-02 PM-03 ISO-00 RSC-01 /019 W

----- 024491

R 241130Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5974

INFO CNO

CINCUSNAVEUR

NAVY JAG

SECNAV

CHNAVPER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VALLETTA 0092

E.O. 11652: DECLAS DEC 12, 1975

TAGS: CASC. MT

SUBJECT: SEAMAN APPRENTICE HUSTON E. FEATHERSTONE, USN

REF: A) VALLETTA 1941, DECEMBER 31, 1974; B) STATE 276042,
DECEMBER 17, 1974

1. ATTORNEY GENERAL MIZZI TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR EVENING JANUARY 23 TO REPORT THAT HE HAD OBTAINED MINISTERIAL APPROVAL FOR RELEASE OF FEATHERSTONE TO US CUSTODY. ALL THAT REMAINED, MIZZI SAID, WAS PRESIDENT'S FORMAL APPROVAL WHICH HAD BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF HIS SLIGHT INDISPOSITION. MIZZI EXPECTED THIS APPROVAL IN NEXT FEW DAYS AND THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT WE ALERT NAVY TO ARRANGE FOR FEATHERSTONE'S TRANSPORTATION AND ESCORT.

2. IN LIGHT TEN-DAY LEAD TIME SUGGESTED REFTEL B, AMBASSADOR TOLD MIZZI THAT LATTER PART OF WEEK BEGINNING FEBRUARY 3 MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR HAND-OVER. MIZZI WAS CONFIDENT THAT ALL WOULD BE ARRANGED LOCALLY WELL BEFORE THEN. WILL ADVISE AS SOON AS PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL OBTAINED.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT NAVY MAY NOW SAFELY PROCEED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR FEATHERSTONE'S ESCORT AND TRAVEL.

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AMBASSADOR HAS ASKED DATT TO BE ACTION OFFICER FOR EMBASSY.

HE WILL BE GLAD TO ASSIST IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE.

4. FYI: BECAUSE OF POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER REMOTE, OF LAST
MINUTE HITCH, WE ARE DELAYING INFORMING FEATHERSTONE UNTILL
PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL ACTUALLY CONFIRMED. SMITH

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Message Attributes

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